



# TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE  
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Dec. 18, 2009  
10 p.m.

**BE ALERT TO SLICK AND HAZARDOUS TRAVEL CONDITIONS  
IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA  
*Friday, December 18, 2009 – 10 p.m.***

**BRISTOL** – The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) warns motorists to be alert to hazardous travel conditions throughout southwestern Virginia. Motorists are advised to postpone any unnecessary travel.

Be alert to the following conditions as of 10 p.m.:

- Sections of Interstate 81 is snow-covered slick and hazardous.
- Interstate 77 is snow-covered and slick. There is an accident northbound near Exit 45 in Wythe County that has northbound I-77 closed.
- Route 19 between the Greendale area and Lebanon is impassable due to traffic accidents, downed power lines and trees.
- The majority of roads in Wise, Dickenson, Tazewell and Bland counties are snow-covered, extremely slick and hazardous.
- Route 23 in Scott County is impassable between the Lee County line and Route 629, as well as Route 58 between Route 23 and the Washington County line. The majority of routes in Scott County are snow-covered, extremely slick and hazardous.
- In Lee County, Route 606 and secondary routes in the Dryden area are impassable. The majority of routes in Lee County are snow-covered and slick.
- In Smyth County, Route 16 and many secondary routes in the Broadford and Chilhowie areas are impassable. The majority of primary routes are snow-covered and slick.
- The majority of routes in Washington and Buchanan counties are snow-covered and slick.
- Route 80 and the majority of secondary roads in Lebanon are impassable. The majority of routes in Russell County are snow-covered, extremely slick and hazardous.
- The majority of primary and secondary routes in Wythe and Grayson, counties are snow-covered, and slick.

VDOT reminds motorists to use caution when driving during wintry weather. Drivers should:

- Check road conditions before they leave home by calling 511 or logging in to [511Virginia.org](http://511Virginia.org)
- Slow down and allow for extra time to reach your destination
- Be aware of potentially icy areas such as shady spots and bridges
- Keep a safe distance of at least five seconds behind other vehicles and trucks that are plowing the road

- Do not pass a snowplow or spreader unless it is *absolutely* necessary  
(END)